

Bullets - There were three bullets examined. These bullets were of the full metal patch type and were rather badly bent and distorted and on this account it was impossible to make any very accurate measurements of land or groove impressions. The bullets were divided into two exhibits as follows:

State Exhibit S-4 - one bullet.

Weight on Liggett Drug Store balance - 73 grains

Corrected to standard balance - 73.6 grains

The bullet showed the imprint of six lands and six grooves with a left hand twist. The approximate width of land impression was .0438".

State Exhibit S-5 - two bullets.

Weight of bullets on Liggett Drug Store balance-72.5 grains

72 "

Corrected to standard balance

73.1 grains

72.6 "

Both bullets showed an impression of six lands and six grooves with a left hand twist. The bullets were upset, dented or distorted but approximate land dimensions were obtained -

.0402" - .0447"

.0405" - .0421"

All of these bullets showed characteristic marks or scratches and land and groove impressions which were the result of having passed through a barrel in not the best of condition. These characteristic scratches are caused by a rusted or pitted barrel or by metallic fouling. These characteristic scratches were of such nature that I am satisfied that all bullets were fired in the same barrel and the fact could readily be established as to whether or not they were fired through any particular barrel.

I am not any too well satisfied as to the accuracy of the measurements taken as to land impression due to the distorted condition of the bullets and the poor light encountered during the measurements. It is my opinion that the bullets were fired in a Colt barrel but it is possible they were fired in one of the foreign pistols which have been placed on the market as an imitation of the Colt. Some of these imitation pistols have a barrel with six land and groove impressions with a left hand twist and in this respect are similar to the Colt barrel.

The fired shells showed a body diameter of approximately .001" smaller than would be expected from a normal Colt chamber and in this respect would lean toward the conclusion that they were fired in a foreign barrel where the chambers are generally somewhat smaller than the Colt. The difference is very slight, however, and it will be readily appreciated that the structure of metal or condition of finished shell would have some bearing on the diameter. Shells which are left